

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15 and continuing onto page 16, as follows:

--Referring to FIG. 6, the remaining unselected symbols from the previous puncturing matrices are all selected in step 601. The number of the selected symbols is defined as  $N_{s2}$ . In step 603, a new  $N_s$  is defined by  $(N_s - N_{s2})$ . Since symbols at all positions are selected from the puncturing matrices in the process of the operations shown in FIGs. 4, 5 and 6, the new  $N_s$  is the number of symbols to be repeatedly selected. In step 605, it is determined whether the new  $N_s$  is greater than 0. If the new  $N_s$  is 0, the procedure ends. If it is greater than 0 in step 605, then in step 607 as many symbols as the new  $N_s$  are selected repeatedly from the information symbols. In other words, the selected symbols are transmitted repeatedly.--